Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 15, with the following redlined paragraph (or section):

Therefore, in the case of recording data in the recording layer 21 of the optical recording medium 10 at a high linear recording velocity such as 4 x speed, namely, about 14 m/sec, when a recording mark having a length of 3T is to be formed after a blank region, the time period T1 is set so as to satisfy the above mentioned formula (2) and be ~~longer~~ shorter than that when a recording mark having a length equal to or longer than 4T is to be formed and when a recording mark having a length of 4T is to be formed after a blank region having the same length, the time period T1 is set so as to satisfy the above mentioned formula (2) and be ~~longer~~ shorter than that when a recording mark having a length equal to or longer than 5T. To the contrary, when a recording mark having a length equal to or longer than 5T is to be formed after a blank region having the same length, the time period T1 is set in a conventional manner.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page ~~29~~ 23, line ~~2~~, with the following redlined paragraph:

It is reasonable to assume that the phenomenon of the rear edge portion of the recording mark being liable to extend toward the front edge portion thereof and the length of the recording mark becoming shorter as the length of a recording mark to be sequentially formed is shorter is caused by the fact that since the time at which the power of the laser beam is switched from the recording power *Pw* to the bottom power *Pb* is set so that the time period T1 determined in accordance with the above mentioned formula (2) becomes shorter as the length of a next recording mark to be sequentially formed is shorter, the rear edge portion of the recording mark is liable to be greatly influenced by heat caused by the laser beam projected for forming the next recording mark and appropriate deformation of the light transmissible substrate 11 at the rear edge portion of the recording mark is not readily inhibited, whereby the rear edge portion of the recording mark tends to extend toward the front edge portion thereof.